

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

Claims 1-7. (Canceled).

8. (Currently amended) Surgical guide for performing a ~~Caldwell-Luc osteotomy to penetrate a lateral sinus elevation and penetrating a~~ wall of a maxillary sinus of a patient, comprising:

a curvilinear-shaped structure for placement adjacent said ~~lateral~~ wall of the maxillary sinus, said curvilinear-shaped structure having a three-dimensional window for placement over a ~~exposing a corresponding~~ portion of said ~~lateral~~ wall of the maxillary sinus to define a surgical field to perform said osteotomy the sinus elevation, said ~~curvilinear structure and window being formed by a peripheral edge that defines an elongated ledge having a first thickness and at least a second thickness differing from the first thickness to correspond to thickness variations of a bony wall lateral to said maxillary sinus, the peripheral edge dimensioned and shaped based on a treatment plan for said patient that includes a CT scan and three-dimensional imaging which characterizes a plurality of walls further including differing surface contours that correspond to and align with uniquely shaped contours formed along surface portions of the wall defining the maxillary sinus and maxillary bone of the patient in three dimensions.~~

9. (Currently Amended) The surgical guide of claim 8, wherein said curvilinear-shaped structure includes a lower portion having a surface configured for positioning over at least one of a portion of an alveolar ridge of the maxillary bone [[and]] and/or adjacent teeth of said patient; and an upper portion extending upward from said lower portion for positioning adjacent to said lateral wall of the maxillary sinus in proximity to said surgical field.

10. (Canceled).

11. (Canceled).

12. (Previously Presented) The surgical guide of claim 8, wherein said curvilinear-shaped structure is fabricated from an acrylic material.

13. (Currently amended) The surgical guide of claim 8, wherein said window is substantially rectangular in shape having a lower ledge portion corresponding in shape to an inferior portion of the sinus, a mesial ledge portion corresponding to a mesial portion of the sinus, a posterior ledge portion corresponding to a posterior portion of the sinus, and a superior ledge portion corresponding to a superior portion of the sinus, said inferior, mesial, posterior and superior ledge portions defining an outline guide for penetrating the lateral wall of the maxillary sinus ~~to perform the osteotomy~~.

14. (Currently amended) The surgical guide of claim [[10]], wherein said peripheral edges defining the window provide an outline of a coronal, anterior, posterior and apical aspect along an X-Y plane of the patient ~~for penetrating the~~ lateral wall of the maxillary sinus ~~to perform the~~ osteotomy.

15. (Currently amended) The surgical guide of claim [[10]]8, wherein said peripheral edges defining the window provide an outline along a Z-Y plane and Z-X plane of the patient for penetrating the lateral wall of the maxillary sinus ~~to perform the~~ osteotomy.

16. (Currently amended) The surgical guide of claim [[8]] 29, wherein said treatment plan comprises at least one of a panoramic, coronal, sagittal and three-dimensional view of the maxillary sinus and maxillary bone structures of said patient.

17. (Currently amended) The surgical guide of claim [[10]] 30, wherein said cutting device is a bur comprising:

an elongated shaft having opposing first and second ends, said first end configured for insertion into a rotary device;

a cutting blade coupled to the second end of said shaft; and

a depth guide extending transversely from said shaft and spaced a predetermined distance from a distal end of said cutting blade.

18. (Previously Presented) The surgical guide of claim 17, wherein said depth guide traverses said shaft a distance in a range of approximately 5-10 mm from the outer edge of the cutting device.

19. (Currently amended) The surgical guide of claim 17, wherein said depth guide is configured to interface and traverse along said ledge of said window of the surgical guide curvilinear-shaped structure.

Claims 20-22. (Canceled).

23. (Currently amended) A method of performing sinus elevation surgery to penetrate a lateral wall of a maxillary sinus of ~~on~~ a patient, comprising:

providing a treatment plan including a CT scan and 3D imaging of having three-dimensional images which characterizes a plurality of walls defining the maxillary sinus and maxillary bone structures of said patient, said plurality of walls having dimensions, shape, and contours formed along surface portions of the walls that are unique to the patient; and

providing a surgical guide for placement adjacent said lateral wall of the maxillary sinus, said guide having a three-dimensional window that is shaped and dimensioned to defines a surgical field, said window being formed by a peripheral edge defining an elongated ledge and including surface contours that correspond to and align with the uniquely shaped contours formed

along surface portions of the walls defining the maxillary sinus and maxillary bone structures of said patient based on results acquired during said treatment plan.

24. (Currently amended) The method of claim 23, further comprising:

placing said surgical guide over a portion of ~~at least one of~~ an alveolar ridge and/or adjacent teeth, and a portion of a lateral wall of the maxillary sinus of said patient after reflection of a corresponding overlying buccal mucosa; and

cutting a portion of said maxillary bone using a bur traversing along [[a]] the ledge forming said window.

25. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 24, further comprising providing a bone graft in a portion of the maxillary bone and sinus as defined in the treatment plan.

26. (Currently amended) The method of claim [[23]]24, wherein said cutting step comprises:

providing a bur having a depth guide set a predetermined distance from a distal end of a cutting blade of the bur based on results of the maxillary sinus and maxillary bone structures of said patient acquired during said treatment plan.

27. (Currently amended) The method of claim [[26]]24, wherein said providing a treatment plan placing step further comprises:

~~identifying wall shapes and dimensions associated with the maxillary sinus and the maxillary bone structures of said patient, wherein upon placement of securing~~ said surgical guide over ~~the at least one of~~ an alveolar ridge and/or adjacent teeth[[,]] and lateral wall of the maxillary sinus, such that a lower ledge portion of said window of the surgical guide is located exactly aligned at a floor portion of the sinus regardless of variations in height of said floor portion.

28. (Currently amended) The method of claim 23, wherein said providing a surgical guide comprises:

fabricating a curvilinear-shaped structure having said three-dimensional window from an acrylic material ~~for placement adjacent said lateral wall of the maxillary sinus, said curvilinear-shaped structure having a window for exposing a corresponding portion of said lateral wall of the maxillary sinus to perform said sinus elevation surgery, said curvilinear structure and window being dimensioned and shaped based on a treatment plan for said patient that includes said CT-scan and three-dimensional imaging which characterizes a plurality of walls defining the maxillary sinus and maxillary bone of the patient in three dimensions.~~

29. (New) The surgical guide of claim 8, further comprising a treatment plan including a CT-scan and three-dimensional images which characterize a plurality of walls defining the maxillary sinus and maxillary bone structures of the patient, said plurality of walls having dimensions, shapes, and contours formed along surface portions of the walls that are unique to the patient.

30. (New) The surgical guide of claim 8, further comprising a cutting device configured to trace along the ledge of the window.

31. (New) The surgical guide of claim 8, wherein said window includes a lower ledge portion corresponding in shape to an inferior portion of the sinus, said inferior ledge portion defining an outline for penetrating the lateral wall of the maxillary sinus.

32. (New) The surgical guide of claim 8, wherein said window includes a mesial ledge portion corresponding in shape to a mesial portion of the sinus, said mesial ledge portion defining an outline for penetrating the lateral wall of the maxillary sinus.

33. (New) The surgical guide of claim 8, wherein said window includes a posterior ledge portion corresponding in shape to a posterior portion of the sinus, said posterior ledge portions defining an outline for penetrating the lateral wall of the maxillary sinus.

34. (New) The surgical guide of claim 8, wherein said window includes a superior ledge portion corresponding in shape to a superior portion of the sinus, said superior ledge portion defining an outline for penetrating the lateral wall of the maxillary sinus.